**INTRODUCTION TO**

**ANCIENT**

**GREEK PHILOSOPHY**



**ἀγαϑὸν ἐπέκεινα τῆς οὐσίας**

…..the good beyond being…..

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NOTE: Make sure your correct email address is registered so that you receive emails from me via Blackboard.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

It is the aim of this course to address the metaphysics and morality of the soul in the work of the pre-Socratics, Plato, and Aristotle. Although the course is lecture-based, the student as consumer of knowledge will be expected to learn intermediate textual analytic skills while grappling with traditional philosophical texts.

VIRTUES

There are a number of scholarly and personal virtues necessary for success in this or any other class:

FIDELITY, or constancy of purpose in devotion to learning;

INDUSTRIOUSNESS, or always working when working is called for;

DILIGENCE, or always working well, both as the task requires and as one’s abilities permit;

PERSPICACITY, or always learning the details of a matter instead of being merely ‘vaguely familiar’ with it;

HUMILITY, the proper understanding of one’s own self-worth without claiming to be entitled to anything beyond that worth; and

GRATITUDE, the acknowledgement that something transcends oneself and provides appreciable natural gifts.

REQUIRED TEXT

Readings in Ancient Greek Philosophy: From Thales to Aristotle (S. Marc Cohen, editor). 5TH EDITION, Hackett, 2016.

ISBN-13 978-1624665325

ASSIGNMENTS

Your final grade for the course will be the average of five assignments:

(1). Three Tests (100 points each)

(2). Presentation (100 points)

(4). One Final Paper (100 points)

ATTENDANCE

Here are the rules pertaining to attendance.

First, you may excuse any absence if you show a medical, legal or other official document. It must be dated. Also, if you perform or compete for Rutgers University, necessary absences will be excused.

Second, you may miss class TWICE without excuse, that is to say, you may miss two classes without excuse this semester. There is no penalty for these absences.

Third, when you miss the third class without excuse, I will subtract ten points from the next test.

Fourth, when you miss the fourth class without excuse, I will subtract ten points from your final average.

Fifth, when you miss the fifth class without excuse, you automatically fail the course.

So, again,

2 absences—no penalty

3rd absence—ten points off next test

4th absence—ten points off the final average

5th absence—automatic failure of the course

TARDINESS

You may be tardy for class twice this semester, but I will subtract three points for every tardy arrival after the first two.

You may leave the class twice this semester, without penalty, but I will subtract three points for every temporary absence after the first two.

TEST FORMAT

The tests will be a mixture of fill-in-the-blank and short essay questions.

PRESENTATIONS

Each student will give one presentation this semester. Presentations will be graded in terms of their articulation, organization, argumentation and grasp of the reading. All students will give presentations this semester. Your grade for the presentation will not be more than 15 points (a letter grade and a half) higher than the average you are carrying at the time of the presentation.

PAPERS

You will be uploading your papers to Blackboard, where Turnitin will scan them for plagiarism. Because cheating is now nearly epidemic, I WILL NOT accept papers by any other means. You must upload your papers by the deadline. They will not be accepted by hand or as an email attachment (no exceptions).

LAPTOPS AND CELLPHONES

Although using laptops in the classroom is a wonderful opportunity for contemporary scholars, too many students abuse the privilege by texting and surfing the web during class. So, sadly, I will permit no one to use laptops or cell-phones during class.

MAKE-UP TESTS

If you miss a test, you will only be permitted to take it if you produce a medical, legal or official document from a university administrator explaining the nature of your participation in a university-sponsored event.

Many students choose to miss an exam because they have not prepared for it and imagine that extra time to prepare will be to their advantage. If you are absent (with or without excuse) when an exam takes place, you will take a make-up AFTER THE WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE. This make-up test will not resemble the exam taken by everyone else. For example, if everyone else takes a matching, fill-in-the-blank or multiple-choice exam, your exam will consist of short-essay questions.

LATE FOR A TEST?

Bear in mind that if you are late for an exam you will not hear certain important instructions. To discourage excessive tardiness for an exam, this policy states that if you are ten to twenty minutes late for an exam, ten points will be subtracted from the exam itself. If you are more than twenty minutes late for a test, you will NOT be permitted to take it.

OFFICE HOURS

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Office hours are by appointment only. They will take place near our classroom on the Livingston campus from 12.30-1.30 on Mondays and Wednesdays. At any rate, all office hours need to be arranged by appointment, preferably with email verification.

**SCHEDULE**

First Week

Tues-Introduction of Course Policies

Thurs- Discussion of Introduction of textbook, Readings in Ancient Greek Philosophy: From Thales to Aristotle, pages 1-7

Second Week

Tues- Milesians (pages 7-11)

Thurs-Heraclitus

Third Week

Tues- Parmenides

Thurs- Empedocles

Fourth Week

Tues- Anaxagoras

Thurs—Leucippus and Democritus

Fifth Week

Tues—Sophists

Thurs—FIRST TEST

Sixth Week

Tues—Plato, Euthyphro

Thurs—Plato, Apology and Crito

Seventh Week

Tues—Phaedo

Thurs—Protagoras

Eighth Week

Tues—Republic (selections)

Thurs—Republic (selections)

Ninth Week

Tues—SECOND TEST

Thurs—Aristotle, Physics

Tenth Week

Tues— Aristotle, Physics

Thurs—Aristotle, On Coming-to-be

Eleventh Week

Tues—Aristotle, De Anima

Thurs—Aristotle, De Anima

Twelfth Week

Tues—Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics

Thurs—Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics

Thirteenth Week

Tues—Aristotle, Politics

Thurs—Aristotle, Politics

Fourteenth Week

Review

THIRD TEST

Academic Integrity Violations

The Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as the representation of the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic work. Intentionally committing plagiarism is a serious offense with severe consequences. Instructors are required to report students who intentionally violate this policy to the department chairperson and to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. The most common forms of plagiarism are:

Quoting directly or paraphrasing without acknowledging the source (this includes copying or paraphrasing material from a web site without providing a proper citation for the site)

Presenting the work of another as one’s own

Plagiarizing major portions of a written assignment

Submitting purchased materials such as term papers

The Rutgers University Academic Integrity Policy establishes levels of violations and recommends sanctions. Depending upon the severity of the case and the level of the violation, the sanctions for these violations include: a failing grade for the assignment, failure in the course, mandatory participation in a series of noncredit academic integrity workshops, academic probation, and/or suspension. (If you are in doubt as to what constitutes plagiarism or are concerned that you are misappropriating someone’s words or ideas, speak immediately with your instructor. For more information, you can also consult the University Code of Student Conduct or the Student Judicial Affairs website [http://judicialaffairs.rutgers.edu](http://judicialaffairs.rutgers.edu/).)

Policy concerning Disabilities

Rutgers abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments (ADAA) of 2008, and Sections 504 and 508 which mandate reasonable accommodations be provided for qualified students with disabilities and the accessibility of online information. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodation, please contact me early in the semester so that I can provide or facilitate in providing accommodations you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Office of Disability Services, the designated office on campus to provide services and administer exams with accommodations for students with disabilities.